

THE CHOWAN HERALD

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Navy holds flyover after Edenton OLF briefing

BY TAMIKA SPRUILL
Staff Writer

A scheduled flyover of a F/A 18C jet on Thursday allowed Edenton officials to hear first-hand if flights from the proposed Washington County OLF site would disturb the historic city's ambience.

"Since most of the Super-hornets are on the West Coast we used the F/A 18C jet. It is very similar to the Super Hornet in terms of noise level," stated Lt. Scott McInay, a Norfolk-based Navy Public Affairs Officer. "The difference in noise level is about three decibels."

At 11:30 a.m. the Navy arranged for jets to fly at 10,000 feet and 16,500 feet. The noise from the jets was minimal but the new F/A 18 E Super Hornets are expected to be louder and will fly four at a time. Edenton sits directly under the path between proposed OLF sites in Craven and Washington County. Even though noise was minimal some town and county officials still expressed concern.

"I was satisfied that the jet noise will likely not be a nuisance to our community," stated town manager Anne-Marie Knighton. "I appreciated the Navy arranging for the flyovers, at 10,000 feet and at 16,500. The pilots normally will be flying at 20,000 feet when they pass over, so I was relieved. We are still lobbying hard for the Final Record of Decision to



Cmdr. Rick Keys (left photo) gestures as he talks about plans for the OLF during a briefing held at the Edenton Town Council Chambers. The briefing took place on the same day that Washington County residents organized a motorcade to Raleigh protesting plans by the U.S. Navy to build on Outlying Landing Field in their county. (Top photo) A Navy spokesman is assisted by County Commissioner Jimmy Alligood in showing a map that indicates where the field would be constructed. The Navy says the planes would fly over Edenton four at a time, in two-week rotations, for six to eight hours a day. (Staff photos by Bud Weagly)

choose Craven County as host site. The OLF needs to go to Craven where the economic benefits from the home basing of the squadrons goes."

The Navy authorities also reviewed the 1,600-page Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) issued July 18, recommending Washington County for an outlying landing field.

According to one navy official,

John Robusto, a former pilot and navy consultant, the urgency for an OLF in this area increased because of this year's war in Iraq.

"The Navy needs to be able to deploy six carriers in thirty days," Robusto stated. "Having an OLF in Northeastern North Carolina gives the navy necessary operational flexibility."

If Washington County is

chosen as an OLF site, the Navy intends to buy 30,000 acres for \$118 million. Roughly 74 homes will have to be moved that will be in "high noise" areas. To offset the yearly 155,000 tax revenue lost by the county, the Navy proposes partnering opportunities to boost the economy.

"The admiral wants to find ways to offset the loss of revenue in Washington County,"

noted J. Dan Cecchini, Commander of the Navy's Atlantic division Naval Facilities Engineering Command.

Partnerships were proposed in the areas of fire fighting, local government contracting and utility expansion.

The Navy estimated the field construction could create 433 short-term jobs for the local

economy. Once the site is finished, 50 full and part-time jobs would be needed for security, refueling and fire fighting. The annual payroll for this site would be between \$950,000 to \$1.2 million. Construction for the proposed OLF would begin in 2004 with a possible completion date set for 2010.

(For more OLF coverage, see page 1-C of this edition)

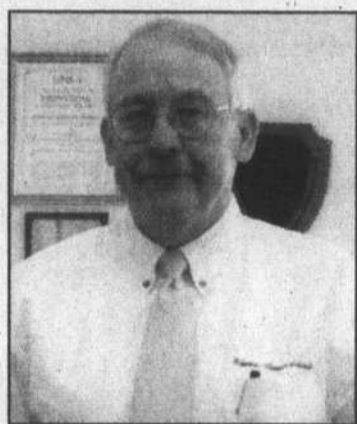
Boyce is state award recipient

BY GLENDA JAKUBOWSKI
Edenton-Chowan Schools

Edenton-Chowan Schools Assistant Superintendent Rob Boyce has been named North Carolina's Career-Technical Education Director of the Year.

The Career-Technical Education mission is to prepare students as world-class workers in the international economy through basic skills such as reading, writing and math and fostering the ability to think independently and as part of a team and to use technology.

"Rob is the catalyst that created the vision of a seamless system to provide career and technical education from kindergarten through high school and beyond," said Edenton-Chowan Schools Superintendent Allan T. Smith.



Rob Boyce

"Through his leadership, the public schools, the College of the Albemarle, the business sector and the community at large have come together in a concerted effort to better prepare our students for the world after high school."

In Edenton-Chowan Schools, CTE is seen in such areas as

the K-12 employability skills curriculum emphasizing responsibility, speaking skills and workplace writing; gateway portfolio projects in grades three, five, eight and the senior project; the three-session Business-Education Summit held last year; the annual Business Expo; Groundhog Job Shadow Day; Workers and their Vehicles Day; and maintaining a strong partnership with the College of the Albemarle.

Boyce credits partnerships and teamwork for the Edenton-Chowan Schools successes in Career-Technical Education.

"It's so many people working together - teachers, the Chamber of Commerce, the business community and the fantastic relationship with COA," Boyce said.

"Any recognition I receive

really belongs to all of them."

More than one of Boyce's above-mentioned team members insists he deserves the lion's share of credit for the honor, however.

"It takes a team, but leadership affects the team," said Lynn Hurdle-Winslow, dean of the Chowan County Center of the College of the Albemarle. "Rob works harder than anyone I know, and it shows in such things as the success of our JobReady Program and in obtaining the Tech-Prep grant. I'm pleased the state recognized what we already know about Rob Boyce."

Regulator Marine's Joan Maxwell concurs. Maxwell and Regulator Marine have been strong partners with the school system in the JobReady

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Subdivision site work starts

Town officials announced this week that a new residential subdivision approved nearly five years ago is about to become a reality. Site work is slated to begin this week at Colonial Village, a 120-unit planned residential subdivision located off of Coke Avenue, near E. Freemason Street. The subdivision is being developed by Colonial Village Group, Inc. of Elizabeth City. The developers plan to construct moderately priced starter homes. They expect to have houses ready for sale in about nine months.

Town Manager Anne-Marie Knighton noted that this is the first major residential subdivision to actually be constructed

inside the city limits since 1988, when the Oak Hill subdivision was started. "The Town Council views this new subdivision as a plus for our community," Knighton said. "The Council's Vision Statement sets as a goal for our town to grow in population from 5,395 to 7,500 in ten years. This subdivision could add up to 240 new residents to our population base over the next five years."

Knighton reported that all state and local permits have been obtained by the developer and the proper bonds posted. The landscape plan is scheduled to be reviewed by staff and the Tree Committee in the next few weeks.



Washlesky featured

Downtown business/property owners will want to attend the Marketplace Guild meeting next Tuesday, Aug. 12, 8:30 a.m. at the Barker House. Belinda Washlesky, executive director of the new Edenton Main Street Program, will provide info on what's in store during the first year.

Local woman's body discovered

BY TAMIKA SPRUILL
Staff Writer

The unrecognizable body of a black female found last Thursday between the Yeopim and Perquimans Rivers was identified as 48 year-old Chowan County resident Lorraine Parker. Parker resided at 221 Evans Bass Road, Rocky Hock.

"An autopsy of Parker's body did not reveal how she died," said Perquimans County Sheriff Eric Tilley. "The State Bureau of Investigation is investigating her death."

A man working at the edge of the Perquimans River discovered the decomposed body

on July 24. According to the State Medical Examiner's Office Parker's body could have been in the water for up to two weeks.

When she was found Parker was wearing cut-off blue jeans over a bathing suit and a white tee-shirt with the words "God Bless America" and a picture of an American Flag printed on it.

According to Sheriff Tilley, Parker has a boyfriend who lives in the Hertford area. The man told investigators that he hadn't seen her in two weeks and did not report her as missing to the authorities.

Chowan County Sheriff's

Office is helping with the case.

"We are assisting Perquimans County as needed," Chowan County Sheriff Fred Spruill stated.

Anyone with information on what may have happened is asked to call Perquimans County Sheriff's Office at 426-5615.

Make A Wish seeks local volunteers

The Make-A-Wish Foundation of Eastern North Carolina is actively recruiting volunteers in the Chowan County area. The Foundation exists to grant the wishes of children with life threatening medical conditions that reside

in the forty-nine counties east of Wake County to the Outer Banks.

"Since being founded in 1986 we have had about twenty children from Cho-

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YOUTH FALL SPORTS REGISTRATION **CHEERLEADING** **FOOTBALL** **SOCCER** **COST \$10.00**
AUGUST 4TH - 8TH from 8 AM - 6 PM (ages 6-12) (ages 6-8 flag, ages 8-12 w/weight limit) (ages 5 - 15) **(\$15 after Aug 8)**
EDENTON-CHOWAN RECREATION DEPARTMENT (old D.F. Walker) & NORTHERN CHOWAN COMMUNITY CENTER Call 482-8595 or 221-4901 for more information